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(a semi-monthly report)

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HIGHLIGHTS:

*Grain Stocks
U.S. Cold Storage
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U.S. Hog Inventory*

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Grain Stocks

UTAH: March 1, 2001 stocks of corn at off-farm locations in Utah were higher than 2000. All wheat, barley, and oats stocks at off-farm locations were lower than last year. No on-farm stocks are published in Utah.

UNITED STATES: Corn stocks in all positions on March 1, 2001 totaled 6.04 billion bushels, up 8 percent from March 1, 2000 and the highest level since 1987. **All wheat** stored in all positions on March 1, 2001 totaled 1.34 billion bushels, down 5 percent from a year ago. Barley stocks in all positions on March 1, 2001 were estimated at 162 million bushels, down nearly 5 percent from March 2000. **Oats** stored in all positions on March 1, 2001 totaled 102 million bushels, slightly above the stocks on March 1, 2000.

U.S. Cold Storage Highlights

Frozen food stocks in refrigerated warehouses on February 28, 2001, were greater than year earlier levels for fruit and orange juice. Cooler stocks of apples were also higher than a year earlier.

Butter stocks were 31 percent above January 2001 but were 23 percent below a year ago.

Total red meat supplies in freezers were 6 percent below both January 2001 and February 2000. Frozen pork stocks were slightly below last month and were 10 percent below last year. Stocks of pork bellies decreased 6 percent from last month and were 4 percent below February 2000 stocks.

Total frozen poultry supplies on February 28, 2001 were down 3 percent from last month and were 11 percent below last year's level. Total stocks of chicken were 10 percent below last month and 13 percent below last year. Total pounds of turkey in freezers increased 14 percent from last month but were 7 percent below last year.

Public cooler occupancy on February 28, 2001, was at 44 percent of capacity, up 7 points from last year. Public freezer occupancy, at 56 percent, was down 3 percentage points from last year.

Stocks in Cold Storage, United States

Commodity	Feb 28, 2000	Jan 31, 2001	Feb 28, 2001
1,000 Pounds			
Total Frozen			
Eggs	14,768	16,957	15,544
Chickens	814,223	784,167	706,241
Turkeys	353,896	289,113	330,481
Cherries, Tart			
RSP	97,224	107,738	98,935
Juice	1,601	2,248	1,616
Cherries, Sweet ..	12,204	12,109	11,775
Potatoes	1,270,148	1,179,465	1,203,811
Beef	369,037	411,437	362,774
Pork	523,473	472,523	470,778
Lamb & Mutton ...	10,335	13,836	13,271
Total in Storage			
Apples, Fresh	3,230,836	4,101,971	3,373,133
Butter	107,847	63,625	83,571
Cheese, Natural ..	757,233	713,247	712,358
American	536,165	510,330	509,039
Swiss	15,377	13,948	12,898
Other Natural ...	205,691	188,969	190,421

Agricultural Prices

UTAH: Prices received by Utah farmers and ranchers during mid-March compared to February were up for alfalfa hay and other hay, but down for barley.

Barley, at \$2.06 per bushel, was 4 cents lower than the previous month's price but 17 cents higher than last year. Baled alfalfa hay was \$87.00 per ton, \$1.00 higher than last month and up \$16.00 from last year. Other hay, at \$57.00 per ton, was \$5.00 higher than last month and up \$16.00 from February 2000.

The lamb price for February 2001 was \$80.00 per cwt, the same as January 2001 but down \$6.00 from February of 2000. The February 2001 sheep price, at \$39.00 was up \$3.00 from January 2001 as well as February of last year.

UNITED STATES: The Preliminary All Farms Products Index of Prices Received in March was 104 based on 1990-92=100, up 4 points (4.0 percent) from the February Index. Higher prices for hogs, broilers, milk, and cattle were partially offset by lower prices for apples, lettuce, strawberries, and corn. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell often affects the overall index. Higher seasonal marketings of strawberries, asparagus, milk, and broilers were partially offset by lower marketings of cattle, cotton, oranges, and corn.

Compared with March 2000, the All Farm Products Index was 8 points (8.3 percent) higher. Price increases from March 2000 for milk, cattle, broilers, and strawberries were partially offset by lower prices for soybeans, corn, apples, grapefruit, and potatoes.

Average Prices Received by Farmers

Commodity	Unit	Utah			United States		
		Entire Month		Preliminary	Entire Month		Preliminary
		Mar 2000	Feb 2001	Mar 2001 ^{1/}	Mar 2000	Feb 2001	Mar 2001 ^{1/}
Livestock & Products							
Lambs	Dol/Cwt	90.00	80.00	<u>2/</u>	80.20	80.10	<u>2/</u>
Sheep	Dol/Cwt	32.00	39.00	<u>2/</u>	38.80	43.60	<u>2/</u>
Crops							
Barley	Dol/Bu	1.89	2.10	2.06	2.23	2.07	2.16
Alfalfa Hay, Baled ^{3/}	Dol/Ton	71.00	86.00	87.00	77.70	94.20	93.70
Other Hay, Baled ^{3/}	Dol/Ton	41.00	52.00	57.00	68.90	71.20	71.30

^{1/} Prices refer to sales occurring about the 15th of the month. ^{2/} March data will be published next month. ^{3/} Mid-month.

U.S. Hog Inventory

U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on March 1, 2001, was 58.8 million head. This was 2 percent above March 2000, but 1 percent below December 1, 2000.

Breeding inventory, at 6.24 million head, was up 1 percent from March 1, 2000, but down slightly from December 1, 2000. **Market hog inventory**, at 52.5 million head, was 2 percent above last year, but 1 percent below last quarter.

The December 2000-February 2001 U.S. pig crop, at 24.9 million head, was 2 percent more than 2000, but 1 percent less than 1999. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.84 million head, 1 percent above last year. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 45 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs per litter was 8.78 pigs saved per litter for the December 2000-February 2001 period, compared to 8.76 pigs last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of

operation ranged from 7.50 for operations with 1-99 hogs to 8.90 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

U.S. hog producers intend to have 2.91 million sows farrow during the March-May 2001 quarter, 1 percent above the actual farrowings during the same period in 2000, but 3 percent below 1999. Intended farrowings for June-August, at 2.92 million sows, are 1 percent above the same period in 2000, but slightly below 1999.

The total number of hogs under contract, owned by operations with over 5,000 head, but raised by contractees, accounted for 32 percent of the total U.S. hog inventory, up from 31 percent last year.

Planting Intentions

UTAH: Utah farm operators, as of March 1, 2001 indicate they intend to plant more acres of oats and dry beans, but fewer acres of corn and barley. Planting intentions for spring wheat and harvesting intentions for all hay are at the same levels as last year.

If current growers' intentions are realized, Utah farmers will plant 55,000 acres of oats, up 5,000 acres from last year. All wheat intentions were estimated at 168,000 acres, 5,000 acres less than last year, and the lowest level since 1991. Spring wheat planting is expected to total 23,000 acres, unchanged from the previous year's level. Barley intentions are 85,000 acres, a decrease of 10,000 acres from 2000. Harvesting intentions for all hay are 700,000 acres, same level as last year. Corn acres planted are expected to be 62,000, down 2,000 from the previous year. Planting intentions for dry edible beans are 6,400 acres, an increase of 1,000 acres from last year.

UNITED STATES: Corn growers intend to plant 76.7 million acres of corn for all purposes in 2001, down 4 percent from 2000 and down 1 percent from 1999. **All wheat** planted area is expected to total 60.3 million acres in 2001. This is down 4 percent from 2000 and the lowest level since 1973. **Oats** acres seeded and to be seeded by U.S. farmers for the 2001 crop year is expected to total 4.43 million acres, down 52,000 acres from last year's final planted acres. Growers expect to harvest 2.2 million acres for grain, 120,000 acres less than the final 2000 harvested acreage. If intentions are realized, planted and harvested acres would be the lowest on record, breaking the previous record lows set last year. **Winter wheat** planted area for the 2001 crop is 41.3 million acres, down 5 percent from 2000. This is the lowest acres seeded to winter wheat since 1971. **Other spring wheat** growers intend to plant 15.5 million acres this year, up 2 percent from 2000. **Barley** growers intend to seed 5.32 million acres in 2001, down 9 percent from the 5.84 million acres seeded in 2000. Area planted to **dry beans** for the 2001 crop year is expected to total 1.45 million acres, down 17 percent from last year and 28 percent below 1999. This is the lowest U.S. acreage since 1983 when 1.18 million acres were planted. **Hay** producers expect to harvest 63.8 million acres of hay in 2001, up 7 percent from the 59.9 million acres harvested in 2000.

UNITED STATES: Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.40 billion pounds in February, down 10 percent from the 3.77 billion pounds produced in February 2000.

Beef production, at 1.88 billion pounds, was 13 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.58 million head, down 12 percent from February 2000. The average live weight was down 7 pounds from the previous year, at 1,218 pounds.

Veal production totaled 16 million pounds, 14 percent below February a year ago and 6 percent below the record low for February set in 1999. Calf slaughter totaled 79,000 head, down 17 percent from February 2000. The average live weight was 10 pounds above last year, at 328 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.49 billion pounds, down 5 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 7.60 million head, 6 percent below February 2000. The average live weight was 2 pounds above the previous year, at 264 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 17 million pounds, was down 13 percent from February 2000. Sheep slaughter totaled 245,000 head, 16 percent below the same time last year. The average live weight was 143 pounds, up 5 pounds from February a year ago.

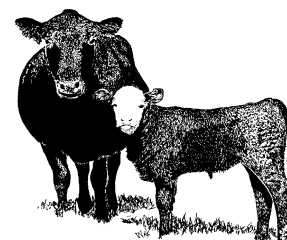
Commercial Livestock Slaughter, February 2000-2001 ^{1/}

Item	Utah		United States	
	Feb 2000	Feb 2001	Feb 2000	Feb 2001
Production (Million Pounds)				
Red Meat	37.1	37.9	3,770.7	3,401.7
Number Slaughtered (Thousand Head)				
Cattle	48.8	48.5	2,936.9	2,580.0
Calves			95.0	78.8
Hogs	4.4	4.5	8,076.9	7,603.5
Sheep & Lamb	2.7	2.3	293.6	245.3
Average Live Weight (Pounds)				
Cattle	1,195	1,220	1,225	1,218
Calves			318	328
Hogs	156	234	262	264
Sheep & Lamb	119	120	138	143

^{1/} Missing data not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

Livestock Slaughter

UTAH: Commercial red meat production totaled 37.9 million pounds in February 2001, up 2 percent from February 2000 but down 12 percent from January 2001.



U.S. Egg Production

U.S. egg production totaled 6.52 billion during February 2001, down 2 percent from last year. Production included 5.51 billion table eggs and 1.01 billion hatching eggs, of which 947 million were broiler-type and 60.0 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during February 2001 averaged 336 million, up 2 percent from the total average number of layers during February 2000. February egg production per 100 layers was 1,943 eggs, down 4 percent from 2,016 eggs in February 2000.

All layers in the U.S. on March 1, 2001, totaled 336 million, up 2 percent from a year ago. The 336 million layers consisted of 276 million layers producing table or commercial type eggs, 56.8 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.78 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on March 1, 2001, averaged 69.5 eggs per 100 layers, down slightly from the 69.8 eggs a year ago.

Layers & Eggs: Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced by Type, United States, February-March, 2000-01

Item	2000 ^{1/}	2001	2001 as % of 2000
Layers during Feb (Thousand)			
All Layers	329,843	335,538	102
Table Egg Type	270,761	276,313	102
Hatching Egg Type	59,082	59,225	100
Eggs per 100 Layers during Feb (Number)			
All Layers	2,016	1,943	96
Table Egg Type	2,077	1,995	96
Hatching Egg Type	1,731	1,700	98
Eggs produced during Feb (Million)			
All Layers	6,648	6,519	98
Table Egg Type	5,625	5,512	98
Hatching Egg Type	1,023	1,007	98

^{1/} Revised.